

**Proclamation 5649 of May 4, 1987**

**National Correctional Officers Week, 1987**

*By the President of the United States of America*

*A Proclamation*

No group of Americans has a more difficult or less publicly visible job than the brave men and women who work in our correctional facilities. Correctional officers who work in jails and prisons are currently responsible for the safety, containment, and control of more than 600,000 prisoners. Correctional officers must protect inmates from violence from fellow prisoners, while encouraging them to develop skills and attitudes that can help them become productive members of society after their release.

The general public should fully appreciate correctional officials' capable handling of the physical and emotional demands made upon them daily. Their profession requires careful and constant vigilance, and the threat of violence is always present. At the same time, these dedicated employees try to improve the living conditions of those who are being confined.

It is appropriate that we honor the correctional officers in all our institutions, at all levels of government, for their invaluable contributions to our society.

The Congress, by Public Law 99-611, has designated the week beginning May 3, 1987, as "National Correctional Officers Week" and authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this event.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week beginning May 3, 1987, as National Correctional Officers Week. I call upon all Americans to observe this week with appropriate activities and ceremonies.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fourth day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eleventh.

RONALD REAGAN

**Proclamation 5650 of May 5, 1987**

**National Older Americans Abuse Prevention Week, 1987**

*By the President of the United States of America*

*A Proclamation*

The maltreatment of older Americans—physical and emotional abuse, neglect, financial victimization, and other denials of human dignity—is a tragedy that affects citizens of every regional, economic, religious, and racial grouping. Victims of this abuse are often among the most helpless and vulnerable members of society, and many cases go unreported to the proper

authorities. All of us should realize our responsibility to provide for the safety and well-being of older Americans.

This responsibility means, of course, that each of us must protect the older people we know. But it also means that we must safeguard the lives and the dignity of every elderly person in our communities. That can be accomplished when concerned and determined citizens, families, church and civic groups, and government officials formulate much-needed programs for prevention, intervention, and public awareness. It can also be achieved through devoting ourselves to the promotion of strong family life and personal morality, and by reminding ourselves that our God-given, unalienable rights to "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness" come with no age limits whatever.

The Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 57, has designated the period from May 3 through May 10, 1987, as "National Older Americans Abuse Prevention Week" and authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this event.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the period from May 3 through May 10, 1987, as National Older Americans Abuse Prevention Week. I call upon all government agencies and the people of the United States to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 5th day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eleventh.

RONALD REAGAN

**Proclamation 5651 of May 8, 1987**

### **National Digestive Diseases Awareness Month, 1987**

*By the President of the United States of America  
A Proclamation*

Digestive diseases represent one of our Nation's significant health problems. Each year digestive diseases affect roughly 20 million Americans. Their cost to Americans in terms of surgery, hospitalization, and time away from work is reckoned in tens of billions of dollars; but their cost in terms of suffering and mortality is incalculable.

Fortunately, private and public support has made continuing research into digestive diseases possible. In addition, concerned organizations—including the Digestive Diseases National Coalition, the National Digestive Diseases Advisory Board, the National Digestive Diseases Education and Information Clearinghouse, and the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases—have been conducting a national public awareness program about these serious diseases and their prevention.

In recognition of the importance of efforts to combat digestive diseases, the Congress, by Public Law 100-32, has designated the month of May 1987 as